

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 COPENH 03728 071636Z
ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 AID-05 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-10 IO-13 NEA-11
NSAE-00 ICA-11 OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04
SIL-01 AGRE-00 OMB-01 STR-07 FTC-01 JUSE-00 NSC-05
/127 W

-----097955 081212Z /46

R 071455Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6648
INFO EC COLLECTIVE
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 3728

USEEC ALSO FOR EMBASSY

PARIS ALSO FOR USOECD

E.O.: 11652: GDS
TAGS: EGEN, EINV, ECOSOC, UN
SUBJ: OECD SUPPORT FOR ILLICIT PAYMENTS AGREEMENT

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REF : STATE 127544

THE FOLLOWING LETTER, FROM DANISH FOREIGN MINISTER ANDERSEN
DATED JUNE 2 (RECEIVED JUNE 7), IS ADDRESSED TO SECRETARY
VANCE AND IS A REPLY TO THE SECRETARY'S LETTER TRANSMITTED
IN REFTTEL.

BEGIN TEXT: DEAR CY,
THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND LETTER OF MAY 22, 1978, CONCERNING
THE NEGOTIATIONS ON AN AGREEMENT COMBATTING ILLICIT PAYMENTS
IN INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS.

I FULLY SHARE THE VIEW THAT, FROM AN ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AS
WELL AS A MORAL POINT OF VIEW, IT IS IMPORT TO PREVENT THE
DISTORTIONS AND OTHER NEGATIVE EFFECTS FOLLOWING THE USE OF
ILLICIT PAYMENTS AND OTHER CORRUPT PRACTICES.

LIKE MANY OTHER COUNTRIES, DENMARK HAS FOR YEARS HAD LAWS
AGAINST ILLICIT PAYMENTS ON A NATIONAL LEVEL, AND WE REALIZE
THAT WITH THE EVER GROWING INTERNATIONAL FLOWS OF TRADE AND
INVESTMENTS THERE IS ALSO A NEED FOR CLOSER INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATION IN THIS FIELD. FOR THIS REASON DENMARK DECIDED
TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ECOSOC WORKING GROUP ON CORRUPT PRACTICES
WHEN THE GROUP WAS OPENED TO PARTICIPATION OF ALL UN MEMBER STATES.

OUR PARTICIPATION IN THE WORKING GROUP ON CORRUPT PRACTICES
IS ALSO CONSISTENT WITH OUR GENERAL POLICY ON TRANSNATIONAL
ACTIVITIES. WE ENDEAVOR TO SUPPORT MEASURES WHICH WOULD MINI-
MIZE THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS AND MAXIMIZE THE BENEFITS OF SUCH
ACTIVITIES. IT IS WITH THAT AIM WE HOPE THAT AN INTERNATIONAL
CODE OF CONDUCT RELATING TO TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATION WILL BE
ESTABLISHED, AND WE FIND THAT THE PROBLEM OF CORRUPT PRACTICES
IS CLOSELY RELATED TO THIS GENERAL ISSUE.
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I SHARE YOUR VIEW THAT A CONSENSUS AMONG OECD COUNTRIES WOULD
BE A MAJOR STEP FORWARD TOWARDS THE SCHEDULING OF A DIPLOMATIC
CONFERENCE ON AN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT ON ILLICIT PAYMENTS.
SOME DISAGREEMENT STILL EXISTS AMONG OECD COUNTRIES, BUT WE
HAVE DEFINITELY MADE PROGRESS. THE OECD MINISTERIAL MEETING
LAST YEAR CONTRIBUTED TO THIS, AND I HOPE THAT THIS YEAR'S
MINISTERIAL MEETING SHALL GIVE FURTHER IMPETUS TO THE WORK.
YOURS SINCERELY,
K. B. ANDERSEN
MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS. END TEXT.
DEAN

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NNN

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